Acquaculture Production in Andhra Pradesh

2097. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fast increasing acquaculture products from national lakes like Kolleru in West Godavari district of Andhra Pdadesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have sent some officials to visit the Kolleru lake to see the development in acquaculture;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) wrether I.C.A.R. has studies the negative fallout of using large and fresh water lakes for acquaculture using various chemical based nutrients; and

(e) what steps will be taken by ICAR to conduct a study on the progressive devastation of Kolleru lake by certain acquaculture practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No officials have been sent by the Ministry of Agriculture to visit the Kolleru lake to see the development in aquaculture. However, some of the scientists of I.C.A.R. fisheries research institutes have visited the lake during seminars|sympesiam etc.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There is no proposal with the I.C.A.R. to conduct a study at present.

Decline in the production of cotton Crops

2098. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken measures for the welfare of farmers in view of the fact that felie diseases have engulfed their crors of cotton, potato, vegetables; etc. during the current season;

(b) whether prices of these agricultural produce have fallen down sharply;

(c) if so, the compensation provided to farmers so far;

(d) whether an insurance cover is being provided to above mentioned crops and if so, the salient feattures of the scheme may be enumerated; and

(e) whether Government propose to consider individual farmers as a single unit under the insurance scheme rather than a block insurance coverage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No such diseases are reported on Cotton, potato, vegetables, etc., during the currnet season.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above. Question does not arise.

(d) A comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme which is under implementation with effect from 1.4.85 covers wheat, paddy, millets, oilseeds and pulses crops. Crops such as cotton, potato, vegetables, etc. are at present not covered under the scheme.

(e) Sincce comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme is area based, farmers who take agricultural loans for insured crops can avail of benefits under the scheme.